



# News Release

## Fishlake National Forest



### For Immediate Release

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### Beaver Ranger District Conducting Prescribed Burn

The Fishlake National Forest, Beaver Ranger District and Central Utah Interagency Fire personnel will be conducting a prescribed burn in an area that has already been mechanically treated. This is a continuing project where approximately 100 acres will be burned daily for the next couple of weeks depending on weather conditions. The area being targeted is in Clear Creek Canyon, South of the Old Highway and North of I-70. The name of the burn is North Cedars North. Prescribed fire is being used to reduce old treatment piles and pinyon/juniper crown cover that has reinvaded the treatment areas. The objective is to increase herbaceous forage production for wildlife, improve range habitat, and reduce hazardous fuels.

The project consists of an approximately 1,000 acres and prescribed burning will be ongoing as favorable conditions permit. The treated areas were completed in the 1960's and 70's and were implemented to improve ground cover, forage production and wildlife habitats. Over time the pinyon/juniper and sage have reinvaded causing a decrease in ground conditions. Livestock forage, soil productivity, and accelerated soil movements are currently in jeopardy of degradation as a result of tree and shrub shading which replaced the more desirable herbaceous forage species.

Generally there are only two "windows of opportunity" per year when fuel, vegetation and weather conditions are acceptable and safe for use of prescribed fire. These usually occur in the spring and fall. Although, every effort is made to conduct prescribed burns so that smoke is minimized and dispersed away from communities and travel corridors near the burn areas. The North Cedars North prescribed burn will be visible from I-70, and includes the communities to the North and East. Re-seeding of the project will take place as soon as conditions allow. Fire crews will continue to monitor the fire until it is completely extinguished.

Information and links about wildland fire and prescribed fire can be found on the internet at [www.utahinfo.gov](http://www.utahinfo.gov).